

Cooper Lavigne
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FIAE chapter 2

The main point in this chapter seemed to be the distinction between mastery of material as opposed to simply memorizing it. The concept of having mastery of any material is that you have a full understanding of the material and you can apply it. For example if I wrote this reflection using only examples from the reading then one might rightly question my mastery of the reading on mastery because I could not make my own connections with the material. It has been proven time and time again that making deeper connections or associations with material is going to lead to lasting knowledge as we can remember things that we've learned from 10 years ago because of certain associations we made at the time. Conversely how many things do we have lasting memories of where the connection starts and ends with "well I had to do a test so I read all the answers right before class"? This is why it is of paramount importance that students understand why they're learning something. If students are given context to the content they're trying to learn they are much more likely to make connections with the material and hopefully end up with a mastery understanding of the material. Having this kind of understanding will be of far more service to them as they go on throughout their education especially when compared to the long term merit of the memorization and regurgitation of facts.